

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording medium comprising a magnetic layer which is sectioned into a plurality of data areas and a plurality of servo areas for information recording, wherein:

in each of the servo areas, the magnetic layer is separated into a plurality of servo pattern unit parts forming a predetermined servo pattern and a servo pattern peripheral part surrounding the servo pattern unit parts;

each of the servo areas has only a single, integral servo pattern peripheral part;

the servo pattern peripheral part is composed of a single magnetic element;

each of the servo pattern unit parts includes a set of a plurality of servo pattern unit components;~~and~~

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are made of same material and have essentially same thickness;

the servo pattern unit components are smaller than the servo pattern peripheral part in a plan view showing a flat surface of the medium; and

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are formed in different sizes so as to have different magnetic properties.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are formed in different sizes so as to have different coercivities as the magnetic properties.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are formed in different sizes so as to have different magnetic anisotropies as the magnetic properties.

10. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are formed in different sizes so as to have different residual magnetizations as the magnetic properties.

11. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein in each of the data areas, the magnetic layer is physically separated into a number of recording elements.

12. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 5, wherein

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are magnetized in opposite polarities.

13-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A magnetic recording medium comprising a magnetic layer which is sectioned into a plurality of data areas and a plurality of servo areas for information recording, wherein:

in each of the servo areas, the magnetic layer is separated into a plurality of servo pattern unit parts forming a predetermined servo pattern and a servo pattern peripheral part surrounding the servo pattern unit parts;

each of the servo pattern unit parts are composed of a single magnetic element;

the servo pattern peripheral part includes a set of a plurality of servo pattern peripheral elements; and

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are formed in different sizes so as to have different magnetic properties.

22. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 21, wherein

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are formed in different sizes so as to have different coercivities as the magnetic properties.

23. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 21, wherein

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are formed in different sizes so as to have different magnetic anisotropies as the magnetic properties.

24. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 21, wherein

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are formed in different sizes so as to have different residual magnetizations as the magnetic properties.

25. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 21, wherein

in each of the data areas, the magnetic layer is physically separated into a number of recording elements.

26. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 22, wherein

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are magnetized in opposite polarities.

27. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 21, wherein

the servo pattern unit parts and the servo pattern peripheral elements are made of same material and have essentially same thickness; and

the servo pattern unit parts are larger than the servo pattern peripheral elements in a plan view showing a flat surface of the medium.

28. (New) A magnetic recording medium comprising a magnetic layer which is sectioned into a plurality of data areas and a plurality of servo areas for information recording, wherein:

in each of the servo areas, the magnetic layer is separated into a plurality of servo pattern unit parts forming a predetermined servo pattern and a servo pattern peripheral part surrounding the servo pattern unit parts;

each of the servo areas has only a single, integral servo pattern peripheral part;

the servo pattern peripheral part is composed of a single magnetic element;

each of the servo pattern unit parts includes a set of a plurality of servo pattern unit components; and

the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are formed in different sizes so as to have different magnetic anisotropies.

29. (New) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 28, wherein:
in each of the data areas, the magnetic layer is physically separated into a number of recording elements.

30. (New) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 28, wherein:
the servo pattern unit components and the servo pattern peripheral part are magnetized in opposite polarities.